

MINUTES

FIRE PROTECTION SPRINKLER SYSTEMS WORK EXAMINING BOARD

OCTOBER 17, 2013

The meeting was called to order by David J. Waskowicz, Chairperson, at 9:00 a.m. in Room 117 of the State Office Building, 165 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut.

Members Present: David J. Waskowicz - Unlimited Journeyperson, Chairperson
Kevin Wypychoski – Unlimited Contractor
Thomas E. Booth – Unlimited Journeyperson
Edward Peznowski – State Fire Marshal
Anthony D. Moscato – Local Fire Marshal

Members Absent: Robert W. Hollis, III – Unlimited Contractor
John Michalewicz – Public Member

Board Vacancies: Two Public Members

Dept. of Consumer Protection Staff Present: Richard M. Hurlburt, Director
Karen Layman, Secretary

Dept. of Consumer Protection Legal Staff: Anthony Santoro, Esq.

CT Dept. of Labor Apprenticeship Rep: Tammie Whiting

Public Present: David LaFond David Rose Peter Raucci Dominic Prete

Note: The administrative functions of the Boards, Commissions and Councils are carried out by the Department of Consumer Protection, Occupational and Professional Licensing Division. For information contact Richard M. Hurlburt, Director at (860) 713-6135 or Fax: (860) 706-1255.

Agency Website: www.ct.gov/dcp **Division E-Mail:** dcp.occupationalprofessional@ct.gov

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS:

The Board voted to approve the minutes of the September 19, 2013 Fire Protection Sprinkler Systems Work Examining Board meeting with an amendment to page 3, under “Old Business, Residential Fire Protection Sprinkler Systems”, to reflect that residential fire protection is covered by the F-1/F-2 license, as stated in the document titled, “Connecticut Residential Fire Sprinkler Working Group Final Report.” Also, an amendment to page 3, under “Correspondence”, to reflect that a letter drafted by John Livingstone and dated September 12 regarding residential fire sprinkler systems was distributed and reviewed by the Board.

COMMENTS OR CONCERNS OF ANY PERSON PRESENT TODAY:

David LaFond, on behalf of the NFSA, stated that the NFSA is still in opposition to the proposed regulatory change in legislation regarding residential fire sprinkler systems that has been put forth previously. The concern is in the language, which states that plumbing license holders would be allowed to install 13R systems, and that the proposed training falls short of what is required in the State of Connecticut.

Chairperson David Waskowicz reiterated that the Fire Protection Board is opposed to this proposed change in legislation as well, and stated that it is duly noted that the NFSA is opposed to plumbers with limited training installing 13R systems. Mr. Waskowicz also reiterated that it is still the Fire Protection Board’s stance that fire protection work is covered by the F1/F2 license, and that the Board would be opposed to any limited training license or certificate issued to do fire protection work, as mentioned at a recent Plumbing and Piping Work Examining Board meeting.

Mr. LaFond also inquired about the status of the proposed task force between the Plumbing and Piping Board and Fire Protection Board to discuss this issue. Chairperson David Waskowicz stated that, to his knowledge, there have not been any meetings or further discussion between these two task forces regarding this matter.

APPLICANT APPEARING IN PERSON:

David Rose, Ocoee, FL - (F-1) Unlimited Contractor – Approved for (F-2)

Mr. Rose, after discussion with the Board, chose to amend the category of license sought from on his application from (F-1) to (F-2). The Board voted unanimously to approve the (F-2) application based on equivalent experience and training.

APPLICANTS APPEALING DENIAL:

Austin Andrella, Akron, OH – (F-2) Unlimited Journeyman - Approved

The Board voted unanimously to approve Mr. Andrella’s (F-2) application.

Thomas Dragus, Struthers, OH – (F-2) Unlimited Journeyman – Approved

The Board voted unanimously to approve Mr. Dragus' (F-2) application.

Bradley Haley, West Salem, OH – (F-2) Unlimited Journeyman - Approved

The Board voted unanimously to approve Mr. Haley's (F-2) application.

Kenneth Hobbel, Tallmadge, OH – (F-2) Unlimited Journeyman – Approved

The Board voted unanimously to approve Mr. Hobbel's (F-2) application.

Michael Haigh, North Providence, RI – (F-2) Unlimited Journeyman – Denied

The Board voted unanimously to deny Mr. Haigh's application due to lack of apprenticeship completion certificate and related instruction.

APPLICATIONS:

Suresh Dabade, Brooklyn Park, MN – (F-1) Unlimited Contractor – Denied

The Board voted unanimously to deny Mr. Dabade's application due to lack of the required (F-2) Unlimited Journeymen's license for a minimum of two years.

Stephen Simmons, Broad Brook, CT – (F-2) Unlimited Journeyman - Approved

The Board voted unanimously to approve Mr. Simmons' (F-2) application.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Achieving Proper Enforcement for Occupational Trade Licenses – Meeting update

Chairperson David Waskowicz reported on the recent task force meeting he attended, along with Bob Hollis and Ed Peznowski from the Fire Protection Board. The task force meets again on October 24, and a meeting with the legislators is scheduled for November 6.

NEW BUSINESS:

None

CORRESPONDENCE:

1. Substitute House Bill No. 5387, Special Act No. 13-5 – An Act Establishing A Task Force To Study The Use Of Military Occupational Specialty Training As A Substitute For State Licensing Requirements.

The Board so noted.

DCP COMPLAINT STATUS REPORT:

The Board noted that there were no new closed complaints to review per Trade Practice Division.

COMMENTS OR CONCERNS OF ANY PERSON PRESENT TODAY:

David LaFond from the NFSA distributed a pamphlet produced by the NFSA regarding the inspection, testing, and maintenance of fire sprinklers. Mr. LaFond notified the Board that he would be available to property owners and building owners for a short presentation regarding this topic. The Board also confirmed that 2002 NFPA25 is adopted and is enforced in Connecticut as it relates to testing, inspection and maintenance, and that it is also part of the F1/F-2 license category test.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:08 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Layman,
Board Secretary

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, November 14, 2013, at 9:00 a.m. in Room 117
Remaining 2013 Meeting Schedule:

- November 14 – Thursday
- December 12 – Thursday

Meetings will take place at 9:00 a.m. in Room 117 at Capitol Avenue, Hartford, CT